

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application, in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 and 21-27 are currently pending in this application, Claim 20 having been previously canceled.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-19 and 21-27 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over Claims 1, 8, 16, and 21 of copending Application No. 10/421,919.

Application No. 10/421,919 went abandoned on December 28, 2004 for failure to prosecute. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection be withdrawn as Application No. 10/421,919 is no longer copending.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion, the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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